

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 14, 2007. Claims 48 to 52 are now pending in the application, of which Claims 48 and 52 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 20, 25, 32, 33, 39 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,686,954 (Yoshinobu) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,813,775 (Finseth), U.S. Patent No. 5,758,259 (Lawler) and U.S. Patent No. 6,415,368 (Glance), Claim 47 was rejected under § 103(a) over Yoshinobu in view of Finseth, Lawler and Glance and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,883 (Herz), Claim 15 was rejected to under § 103(a) over Yoshinobu in view of Finseth and Lawler and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0231003 (Cooper), and Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under § 103(a) over Yoshinobu in view of Finseth, Lawler and Cooper and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,002,394 (Schein). In view of the cancellation of the rejected claims, each of the foregoing rejections are believed to be obviated. Nonetheless, newly-added Claims 48 to 52 are believed to be allowable over the art of record for at least the following reasons.

The presently claimed invention relates to notably displaying a recommended program on an Electronic Program Guide. In the invention, a receiving apparatus receives broadcasting programs and associated program information and extracts the program information. The receiver also inputs a recommended program information from an external device, which is input by another user. That is, a different user of, for example, a PC can input a recommended program to the receiver. The receiver then

controls the display of the EPG depending on whether or not the recommended program information exists. If not, then a normal EPG is displayed, but if so, then a special EPG is displayed in which the recommended program is notably displayed (e.g., highlighted).

Referring specifically to the claims, newly-added independent Claim 48 is directed to a receiving apparatus, comprising a receiving unit for receiving a television broadcasting signal in which video signals of a plurality of broadcasting programs and program information of the plurality of broadcasting programs are multiplexed, an extraction unit for extracting the program information from the television broadcasting signal received by said receiving unit, an input unit for inputting recommended program information from an external apparatus, which is accessible by a user, an image generation unit for generating an Electronic Program Guide (EPG) image based on the program information, a control unit for retrieving the program information relating to the recommended program information, and for controlling the image generation unit, in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does not exist, to generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does exist, to generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

Claim 52 is a method claim substantially corresponding to Claim 48.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 48 and 52, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a receiver retrieving program information relating to recommended program information that is input from an external device by another user, and controlling an image generation unit/step to, in a case where the program

information relating to the recommended program information does not exist, generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does exist, generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

Yoshinobu is seen to disclose that a content of a distribution program is defined by discrimination data, where the discrimination data and data of a table corresponding to character data are broadcast distributed, and a receiving apparatus receives the data and modifies it into a program schedule for display. However, Yoshinobu is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a receiver retrieving program information relating to recommended program information that is input from an external device by another user, and controlling an image generation unit/step to, in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does not exist, generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does exist, generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

Finseth is merely seen to disclose that a viewer inputs a personal comment and review concerning a TV program to share the input information among viewers, and that shared favorite information is used in forming a program guide for displaying a program in which the other view is interested. However, Finseth is not seen to disclose anything that, when combined with Yoshinobu, would have resulted in at least the features of a receiver retrieving program information relating to recommended program information that is input from an external device by another user, and controlling an image generation unit/step to, in a case where the program information relating to the

recommended program information does not exist, generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does exist, generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

Lawler is seen to disclose that an interactive station controller 20 performs a digital data communication with a central control node 12 to automatically personalize a program guide based on viewing history of the viewer. However, Lawler is not seen to teach anything that, when combined with Yoshinobu and/or Finseth, would have resulted in at least the features of a receiver retrieving program information relating to recommended program information that is input from an external device by another user, and controlling an image generation unit/step to, in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does not exist, generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does exist, generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

Glance is merely seen to disclose a network system wherein a priority is determined within a cache based on a relative value of their content. However, Glance is not seen to disclose anything that, when combined with Yoshinobu, Finseth and/or Lawler, would have resulted in at least the features of a receiver retrieving program information relating to recommended program information that is input from an external device by another user, and controlling an image generation unit/step to, in a case where the program information relating to the recommended program information does not exist, generate a normal EPG image, and in a case where the program information relating to the

recommended program information does exist, generate a special EPG image in which the recommended program is notably displayed.

In view of the foregoing deficiencies of the art of record, Claims 48 to 52 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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